

Tulare County Sheriffs Office Electronic Weapons Operator Course

I. Introduction

A. Registration

1. Tulare County Sheriffs Department paperwork
2. POST forms - Attendance Roster
3. TASER liability waiver (if necessary)

B. Safety Guidelines

1. Equipment
 - a) Taser X2 model.
2. First Aid
 - a) First Aid Kit locations, drinking water locations, safety areas for non-involved students during testing, communications locations, restrooms.
3. Location of nearest hospital.
 - a) Kaweah Delta District Hospital, 400 W. Mineral King, Visalia,
Phone: #(559)624-2000(ER).
4. Response to injuries.
 - a) Mandated TCSO investigative report of any injuries, notification of chain of command. Injuries shall be responded to and aid shall be administered.

C. Introduction

1. Instructors
 - a) Deputy Eric Lemoine, Sergeant Jason Villarreal, Sergeant Ronna Brewer, Correctional Deputy Gabino Valdez, Deputy Benjamin Oakes, Deputy Mike Castellanoz, Deputy Jacob Fulton, Corporal Brian Neer, and Correctional Deputy Craig Douglass.
2. Students
 - a) Student responsibilities, equipment check, weapons check, classroom demeanor.
3. Course Overview
 - a) The class will cover the techniques for proper deployment of and certification of users in the use of the TASER brand less-lethal weapon entitled the Advanced Taser X2. Taught by lecture, demonstration, written testing and hands on skills application.
4. Facility
 - a) Classroom, target dummy, weapons overview.
5. Safety Guidelines
 - a) Taser device safety, classroom safety, safety zone designation for non-involved students.

II. History

A. Definitions

1. Handheld devices
 - a) Taser handheld devices - X2 -technology overview
 - b) Taser cartridge devices - X2

B. Electronic Incapacitation vs. Pain Compliance Devices

1. Pain compliance / electric stun devices
 - a) Affects sensory nervous system.
 - b) Affects communication from the muscles to the brain
2. Electronic Incapacitation
 - a) Affects both sensory and motors nervous systems
 - b) Affects communication from the brain to the muscles

III. Exposures

A. Individual Exposures

1. Recommended
2. Not Required

B. Safety Procedures

1. Environmental Precautions
 - a) Wet environments
2. Proper spotters for exposure
 - a) One spotter for each arm, eye protection, safety mats, clear area.
3. Post-Exposure Care
 - a) Probe removal considerations
 - b) Probe impact sites, treatment
4. Safety Equipment
 - a) Eye protection
 - b) Probe deployment, distance and safety

IV. Department Electrical Weapon (Electronic Weapons and Nomenclature)

A. Nomenclature

1. Manufacture specifications and safety guidelines.
2. Weapons specifications
 - a) X2 - operation, safety, on off modes.
3. Holsters, different models and specifications.
 - a) Waist holsters vs. thigh holsters - spare cartridge carry
 - b) Weapon retention
 - c) Weapon deployment from holster
4. Cartridges
 - a) Cartridge color identification and differences, distance ratings, cartridge safety, spare cartridge carry
5. Camera Battery specifications
 - a) Battery charging, battery pack differences of X2 Taser.

B. Pros and Cons

1. Never 100%
2. Reduce injuries to subjects and officers.
3. Accessibility
4. Comparison with other force options
 - a) Impact weapons
 - b) K-9
 - c) OC spray - Flammability warning.
5. Environmental Restrictions
6. Compatibility with other force options
 - a) impact weapons
 - b) K-9
 - c) OC spray - Flammability warning

V. Legal / Ethical Considerations

A. Statutory and Case Law

1. Federal statutes
2. State statutes
3. Civil law considerations
4. Relevant case law

B. Department Policy

- a) TCSO Use of Force policy
- b) TCSO Electronic Weapons policy
- c) Documentation - report writing
- d) Medical policy - drive stuns vs. cartridge probe deployment

VI. Medical

A. Medical Considerations

1. Method of Delivery
2. Electrical output of devices
3. Physiological effects
4. Known pre-existing medical conditions

B. Subject Risk Factors

1. Drug and alcohol consumption
2. Excited delirium
3. Positional/restraint compression asphyxia
4. Preventative measures

VII. Deployment

A. Pre-Deployment

1. Modes of deployment
2. POST recommended weak side carry.
3. Communication/contact-cover
4. Deadly force cover considerations
5. Scene assessment /environmental considerations
6. Force options considerations
7. Known pre-existing medical considerations

B. Deployment

1. Recommended distance from target
 - a) Deployment 7 to 15 feet.
 - b) 25 foot cartridges
2. Target areas for subject
 - a) Areas of the body for targeting
 - b) Avoid groin, head
3. Communications
 - a) Other officers
 - b) Subjects (warning/directions)
4. Evaluate effect after each application
5. Application of additional or different force options
6. Safely take subject into custody (handcuffing under power)
7. Cover officer considerations in an arrest situation

C. Post-deployment

1. Medical assessment for subject or officers
2. Supervisor notification
3. Probe/dart removal
4. Transportation/medical clearance
5. Evidence collection

D. Documentation

1. Subject's behavior and actions
2. Independent witness
3. Documentation of the facts (injuries, medical care, etc.)
4. Data downloads
5. Audio, video, etc.

VIII. Practical Application and Testing

A. Scenario Training

1. Static drills
 - a) Aiming commands
 - b) Aiming drills
 - c) First firing drill
 - d) Re-loading drill
 - e) Live scenario

B. Written Test

1. Students will complete written test on material covered
2. Students will have test graded and will go over results
3. Remediation will be provided for any student that fails.

C. Practical Test

1. Students will perform a practical test to demonstrate learning
2. Students will demonstrate competency with the electrical weapon
3. Students will be allowed to remediate if needed, prior to end of the course
4. Course evaluations will be given and certificates distributed